

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1: (Canceled)

Claim 2: (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Amended): The apparatus of claim + 12 wherein the first plurality of indentations includes an elongated groove, and wherein said optical fiber is held within the elongated groove.

Claim 4 (Amended): The apparatus of claim + 12 wherein the second plurality of indentations includes at least one trapezoidal-shaped pocket.

Claim 5 (Original): The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the second plurality of indentations includes an elongated groove, and wherein said optical device comprises a lens mounted to said base within the elongated groove.

Claim 6 (Amended): The apparatus of claim + 12 wherein at least one of said plurality of spacers are spherically-shaped.

Claim 7 (Original): The apparatus of claim 6 wherein at least one of said plurality of spacers and said optical device are made of the same material.

Claim 8 (Original): The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the first plurality of indentations includes at least one trapezoidal-shaped pocket.

Claim 9 (Original): The apparatus of claim + 12 wherein the second plurality of indentations includes at least one trapezoidal-shaped pocket.

Claim 11: Canceled.

Claim 12 (Previously Amended): An apparatus which holds an optical fiber in alignment to an optical device, said apparatus comprising:

- a fiber holder having a first plurality of indentations formed therein;
- at least one optical fiber within a corresponding one of said first plurality of indentations;
- a base substrate having a second plurality of indentations formed into said base;
- a plurality of spacers, each of said plurality of spacers within a corresponding one of the second plurality of indentations, wherein said fiber holder is mounted on said base with said plurality of spacers within said first plurality of indentations;
- an optical device mounted to said base, said optical device comprising a lens;
- a third plurality of indentations formed in said base; and
- a second plurality of spacers, each of said second plurality of spacers within a corresponding one of said third plurality of indentations, wherein said optical device is mounted to said base with an edge of said optical device in contact with at least two of said second plurality of spacers and establishes a horizontal position of said optical device.

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said optical device has a round central section.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the optical device comprises one of a dome-shaped lens and a disk-shaped lens.

Claim 16 (Previously Amended): An apparatus which holds an optical fiber in alignment to an optical device, said apparatus comprising:

- a fiber holder having a first plurality of indentations formed therein;
- at least one optical fiber within a corresponding one of said first plurality of indentations;
- a base substrate having a second plurality of indentations formed into said base;

a plurality of spacers, each of said plurality of spacers within a corresponding one of the second plurality of indentations, wherein said fiber holder is mounted on said base with said plurality of spacers within said first plurality of indentations;

an optical device mounted to said base, said optical device comprising a lens and at least one flat face;

a third plurality of indentations formed in said base; and

a second plurality of spacers, each of said second plurality of spacers within a corresponding one of said third plurality of indentations, wherein said optical device is mounted to said base with said flat face in contact with at least three of said second plurality of spacers and establishes a vertical position of said optical device.

Claim 17 (Previously Amended): The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said lens is one of a dome-shaped lens and a disk-shaped lens.

Claim 18: Canceled.

Claim 19: Canceled.

Claim 20: Canceled.

Claim 21: Canceled.

Claim 22 (New): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the at least one optical fiber comprises multiple optical fibers.

Claim 23 (New): The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the at least one optical fiber comprises multiple optical fibers.

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In the drawings:

Figure 12A has been amended to replace reference numeral "1230" with --1260--. The amendment is consistent with the specification at page 10, lines 19-23. The amended drawing, with changes shown in red, and a second amended clean drawing are enclosed with a separate cover letter to the Official Draftsman. We ask that the Examiner approve the amendment to the drawing.